

The indication of the allowability of claim 29 subject to being written in independent form, is noted with appreciation. Accordingly, this claim has been written in independent form and is deemed allowable. Claims 30, 33, 34, 48 and 49 depend from claim 29 and are also allowable.

The remaining claims have been amended to be consistent with the Species elected as will be discussed below.

The objection to the specification under 35 USC 112 is noted and has also been addressed as discussed below. This also takes care of the rejection of claims 27 and 40 under 35 USC 112.

Claims 1, 41 and 44 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Slovak. This rejection is no longer applicable in view of the present amendment. The Slovak electrodes are not needles as claimed.

Claims 1, 35, 40, 41 and 44 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Hofmann. This rejection is no longer applicable in view of the present amendment.

Claim 1 has been amended to specify that the array of electrodes is an array of "multiple opposed pairs of electrodes" and the pulse generator is provided for "applying pulses of high amplitude electric signals to selected opposed pairs of said electrodes". None of the cited references disclose or in any way suggest these features. Therefore, claim 1 and all the claims dependent thereon, namely 2, 26 and 35 are deemed to be allowable.

Claim 2 has been left remaining in the application because the description of Fig. 3 and 4 embodiment which applicant elected is described in line 14 of page 8 as "one or more of the needles may be hollow to enable the injection of a medication". Again, on page 9, line 15 and

16, one or more of the needles are described as "may be hollow to enable the injection of the desired medication". In addition, on page 12, line 18 in reference to the Fig. 9 embodiment, there is stated "this form of needle and electrode may be used with all of the above described assemblies". Thus, it is submitted that the elected species does include a cannula as an alternate sub-combination feature. Accordingly dependent claims with this feature are properly in and supported in the application.

Independent claim 36 has been amended in a manner similar to that of claim 1 to define "a second combination of multiple needle electrodes for insertion into said selected tissue". The claim further defines "means for selectively connecting multiple pairs said needle electrodes in pairs of opposed polarity to an electric pulse generator for applying pulses of high amplitude electric signals to the electrodes". None of the cited references disclose or suggest this combination of features. Accordingly, the claims dependent thereon are also deemed allowable.

Claim 41 has also been amended in a manner somewhat similar to claims 1 and 36 by specifying "an array of multiple pairs of electrodes, at least multiple pairs of said electrodes having a needle configuration for penetrating selected tissue space relation". The claim further defines "an electric pulse generator for selectively applying pulses of high amplitude electric signals to selected pairs of said electrodes". None of the cited references disclose or in any way suggest these features. Accordingly, claim 41 and the remaining claims dependent thereon are clearly allowable over the cited references.

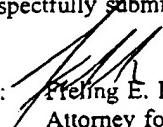
TOTAL P.10

For the above reasons, it is submitted that the claims remaining in the application clearly and patentably distinguish over the cited references and any combination thereof. Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectively solicited.

No additional fees are due. Please charge any deficit or credit any excess to our Deposit

Account No. 02-0460.

Respectfully submitted,

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